

To prevent and treat disease and disability; to promote healthy lifestyles; and to protect and promote the health and quality of our environment.

## **News Release**

## World AIDS Day, December 1st

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Contact: Wendy Den-Herder, RN - 327-8599

Gladys Goodman, RN - 327-8630

The thirteenth annual AIDS Day will be observed around the world and in Boise on December 1, 2000.

Locally, a special program at the BSU Student Union from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm will commemorate World AIDS Day where free HIV testing will be offered by staff from the regional Ryan White Clinic. Other HIV/AIDS service organizations will have representatives available to answer questions.

On a national level, Latin and pop music sensation, Ricky Martin, will be hosting a documentary called "Stayin' Alive", on MTV. Check your local MTV listing for more information.

HIV/AIDS is an epidemic that affects us all. An estimated 850,000 people in the United States are currently infected with HIV - perhaps someone you know. Around the world, more than 34 million people are estimated to be living with HIV or AIDS today, and 9 out of 10 of them **DO NOT KNOW** they are infected! In Idaho, at least 712 people are living with HIV/AIDS and over 360 have died.

We all have the power and the responsibility to make a difference. To stop the HIV/AIDS epidemic in our community, we must work together to promote safe sex, individual responsibility, and tolerance toward those infected with HIV/AIDS. We must all become educated on how to prevent HIV infection and help others learn how to prevent the spread of this disease.

For more information on HIV or AIDS, visit our website: www.cdhd.org.